

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-3 (canceled)

4. (original) An aluminum alloy for a cast engine block, said alloy consisting essentially of, by weight, 11.25 to 11.75% silicon, 0.35 to 0.65% iron, 1.75 to 2.75% copper, 0.4 to 1.2% manganese, 0.15 to 0.3% magnesium, 0.5% max zinc, a trace of nickel, 0.2% maximum titanium, 0.01% to 0.03% strontium and the balance aluminum, where the weight ratio of manganese to iron is at least 1.2 to 1.75.

Claims 5-7 (canceled)

8. (original) A cast cylinder block for an internal combustion engine when formed of the alloy recited in claim 4.

Claims 9-14 (canceled)

15. (currently amended) An aluminum casting alloy ~~as recited in claim 9, said alloy~~ consisting essentially of, by weight, 11.25 to 11.75% silicon, 0.35 to 0.65% iron, 1.75 to 2.75% copper, 0.4 to 1.2% manganese, 0.15 to 0.3% magnesium, 0.5% max zinc, a trace of nickel, 0.2% maximum titanium, 0.01 % to 0.03% strontium, and aluminum, where the weight ratio of manganese to iron is at least 1.2 when the iron content is equal to or greater than 0.4% and the weight ratio of manganese to iron is at least 0.6 when the iron content is less than 0.4% of the alloy.

Claims 16-18 (canceled)

19. (currently amended) An aluminum casting alloy as recited in claim 15 9, said alloy consisting essentially of, by weight, 11.25 to 11.75% silicon, 0.35 to 0.65% iron, 1.75 to 2.75% copper, 0.4 to 1.2% manganese, 0.15 to 0.3% magnesium, 0.5% max zinc, a trace of nickel, 0.2% maximum titanium, 0.01 % to 0.03% strontium, and aluminum, where the weight ratio of manganese to iron is at least 1.2 when the iron content is equal to or greater

than 0.4% and the weight ratio of manganese to iron is at least 0.6 when the iron content is less than 0.4% of the alloy, and the microstructure of the cast alloy is substantially free of primary silicon.